

### TRAINING-SCHOOLS FOR NURSES.

In another year the state law governing the registration of nurses will be operated so as to require a high school education of all candidates for the R. N. This step appears to be the beginning of the end of the proprietary hospital without a clinic service as a training-school for nurses. There is no more excuse for the existence of the proprietary training-school for nurses than for the proprietary medical school. The latter has practically ceased to exist, while the former thrives. No one in his right senses would even dream of founding a school for the training of physicians, in which all of the information required by the students is to be "picked up" as best it can be by contact with private patients only, under the care of a large group of physicians whose methods may vary as widely as their competence, and with no clinics, open demonstrations, or opportunity to make a thorough-going examination. Yet we are attempting to turn out the "trained" nurse by this very process.

And why? Because the proprietary hospital can not, unless it caters to the rich only, make both ends meet and at the same time give reasonable service unless it can get almost all of its nursing done for nothing or at a very nominal cost. To accomplish this economic feat the board of trustees opens, in connection with the hospital, what it is pleased to call a training-school for nurses, and a set of requirements for admission is formulated demanding, as a rule, a high school education and certain age and character qualifications on the part of candidates for the course. Suddenly it is found that there are not enough "girls to do the work" and the entrance requirements go by the board, perhaps forever. Thus we have, in full swing, the mediocre or poor proprietary training-school.

The exploiting of the pupil nurse in the proprietary hospitals was carried to such a degree that a successful movement for the inclusion of these women under the provisions of the eight hour law had its birth within the very walls of these institutions.

A superintendent of nurses who cannot keep up the numerical strength of the nursing-staff will last but a short time. But rarely, perhaps once in a moonshine, does the board of trustees, usually largely medical in its make-up, realize that it owes a very deep obligation to the women who elect to become pupils of the school. These women are led to believe that they are to receive a training which will enable them, upon graduation, to become full-fledged nurses. Fortunately (for the graduates) these women are most often of such mediocre mentality and education, frequently but little above the servant in type, that they actually think they have gotten a complete and efficient training. And the interesting feature is that this view is shared by many physicians. So, from the date of their graduation they are kept as continuously busy as their sisters, the graduates of a properly equipped, well conducted school. And worse yet, they receive the same remuneration as the well-trained women from the best training-school in the country.

It is slowly, but nevertheless surely, dawning upon us that a training-school for nurses is essentially and first of all a *school*, and that proper equipment, material, and the employment of recognized pedagogic methods are just as necessary to teach women nursing as they are to develop engineers, chemists or other professionals.

### MEDICAL LEGISLATION.

On February 26, 1917, the California State Legislature will reconvene for the purpose of considering various bills that were presented during the first half of the session and also divers amendments. From this time on, more than ever before, is it important that those interested in medical laws be on the alert to prevent the passage of any vicious bills or any amendments. Already there have appeared amendments that are designed to do away with the protection of the public against half-baked, half-educated so-called doctors. There are three different "Drugless" crowds, each one of which is extremely active. For some time they have been busy circularizing the state and the Legislature, and a considerable part of their effort is exerted in the direction of their abusing what they are pleased to call the "Medical Trust." They all have active, paid lobbyists at work constantly, and as some of the legislators have felt all of the pressure from one direction, unless the regular medical profession gets busy the "Drugless" crowd are apt to accomplish their desires. One of these "Drugless" bills is fathered by a famous (?), universal specialist, who conducts a Turkish bath establishment and a regular emporium for the curing of all the ills of mankind! This bill is practically the same as the initiative measure which was defeated so decisively by the people at the election two years ago. Along with the small army of freak faddists, loudly clamoring for special legislation on behalf of their cults, there is a female lobbyist who seems to have the habit of appearing before the Legislature on behalf of some undesirable medical measure. Notwithstanding the fact that she has an M. D. degree, she had introduced amendments designed to give "reciprocity" (?) to everyone, including all classes of practitioners. For reasons heretofore given, the following bills are extremely undesirable and ought to be defeated:

Senate Bill No. 24 (Scott). A special "Drugless" bill.

Senate Bill No. 279 (Inmann). A special "Chiropractic" bill.

Senate Bill No. 105 (Ballard). A special "Chiropractic" bill, introduced at the request of the head of a notorious Chiropractic institution which has been in the limelight more or less constantly.

Senate Bill No. 760 (Stuckenbruck). A vicious amendment giving special privileges to one of the freak cults and extending to an almost unlimited degree the Reciprocity Act.

Assembly Bill No. 95 (Argobright). Special legislation on behalf of Chiropractors.

Assembly Bill No. 57 (Hilton). Special legislation on behalf of some of the "Drugless" crowd.

Senate Bill No. 110 (Luce). Places all health matters and also the regulation of the practicing of